BOOM! STUDIOS™

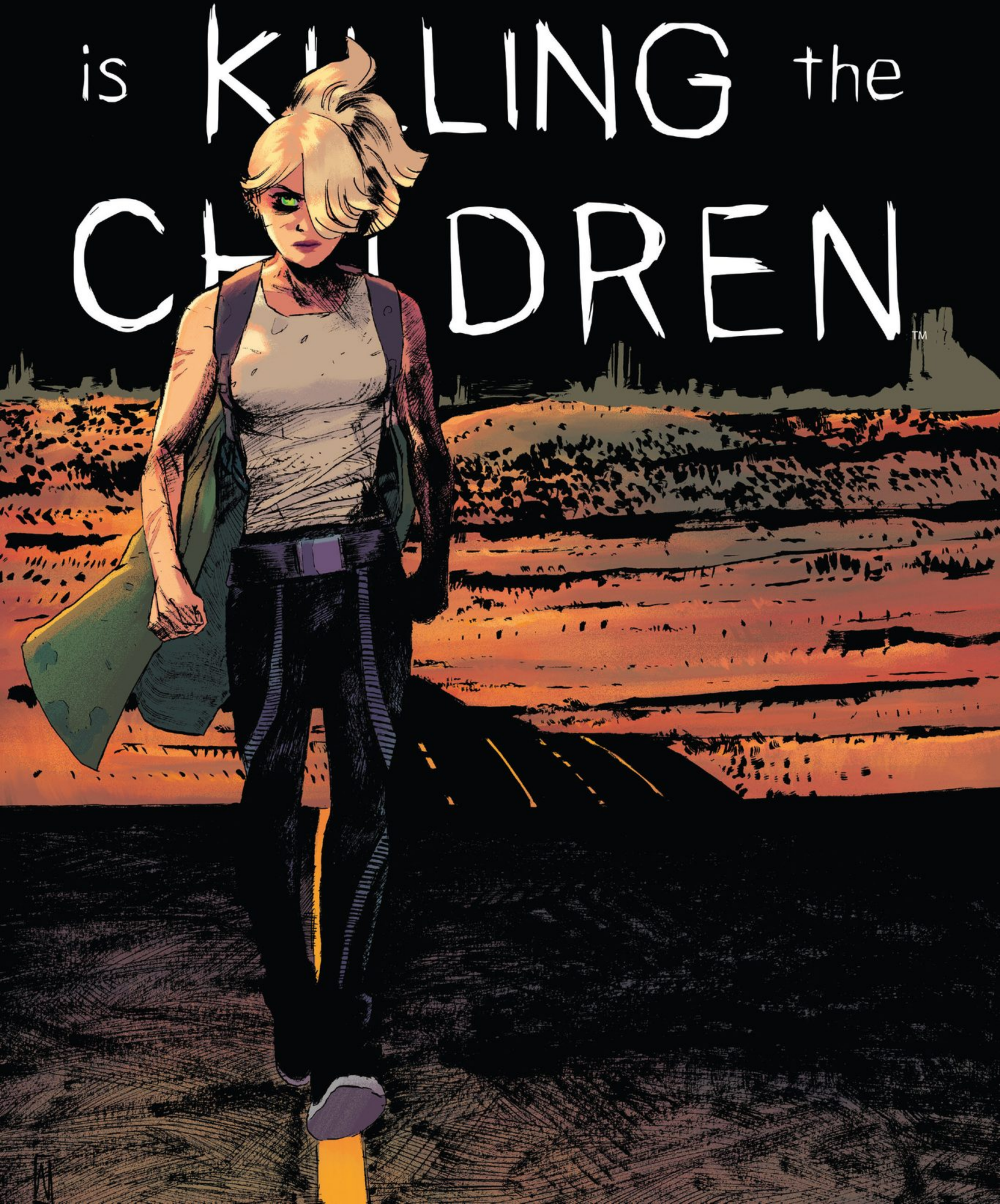
JAMES TYNION IV

WERTHER DELL'EDERA

MIQUEL MUERTO

Nº 21

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™



I WANT A LAWYER.

YOU DON'T NEED A LAWYER, GABI. YOU'RE NOT UNDER ARREST. YOU'RE NOT A SUSPECT.

WHY NOT?

BECAUSE WE HAVE YOU ON THE CAMERA ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SPRINGS WHEN IT HAPPENED.

YOU HAVE IT ON CAMERA?

NOT EXACTLY. WE HAVE *YOU* ON CAMERA.

WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT THE PERSON WHO DID THIS LOOKS LIKE.

OKAY.

THEN I WANT A FUCKING LAWYER, SO YOU DON'T, LIKE...PIN IT ON ME. BECAUSE I DIDN'T DO IT.

I KNOW YOU DIDN'T DO IT, GABI.

BUT THAT'S WHY I NEED YOUR HELP. I NEED YOU TO EXPLAIN WHAT YOU SAW.

NOT JUST FOR YOUR FAMILY'S SAKE, BUT FOR THE FAMILIES OF ALL THE VICTIMS THE LAST FEW WEEKS.

YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON TO ACTUALLY ***SEE*** SOMETHING, SO I NEED YOUR HELP.

BECAUSE YOU'RE A BAD DETECTIVE.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD CALL A ***GOOD*** DETECTIVE.

JESUS CHRIST.

YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THAT.

MY MAMÁ ROSA SAYS THAT YOU CAN'T TAKE THE LORD'S NAME IN VAIN.

AND YOU DEFINITELY SHOULDN'T DRAW BONERS ON NAKED PICTURES OF HIM IN SCHOOL.

YOU GET IN A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR THAT.

GABI, PLEASE. I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT TONIGHT. BUT I NEED YOUR HELP.

SOMEBODY JUST KILLED YOUR SISTERS. YOUR MOTHER. YOUR GRANDMOTHER.

I *KNOW* YOU SAW WHO DID IT.

YOU AREN'T IN TROUBLE, BUT I NEED YOU TO DESCRIBE WHAT YOU SAW TO ME SO I CAN STOP THIS PERSON BEFORE ANYBODY ELSE DIES.

I WANT A FUCKING LAWYER.

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN

TRIBULATION, NEW MEXICO

THERE SHE IS.

HERE I AM.

TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT, RIQUI.

YEAH?

TONIGHT I AM GOING TO ASK YOU TO MARRY ME.

AND YOU'VE GOT A RING.

OUR LOVE DOESN'T NEED A RING, RIQUI. IT IS PURE.

DON'T LISTEN TO THAT OLD FOOL.

I'M DEFINITELY NOT LISTENING TO HIM.

YOU'RE GOING TO BREAK MY HEART ALREADY!

I BREAK YOUR HEART EVERY NIGHT, PABLO.

IT'S TRUE, LUIS. EVERY NIGHT. MY HEART IS RIPPED FROM MY CHEST EVERY NIGHT.

BUT YOU KEEP COMING BACK.

THAT IS HOW STRONG MY LOVE FOR YOU IS.

I'M THE LUCKIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD.

MADRE DE DIOS...

TRY AGAIN IN A DECADE, KID.

MY WHOLE FAMILY IS DEAD. I THINK THAT MEANS I GET TO DRINK WHATEVER I WANT.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, GABI?

I WANT A WHISKEY LEMONADE.

LOOK AT THE GIRL! SHE'S COVERED IN BLOOD! WE NEED TO CALL THE POLICE!

I'M NOT ANSWERING ANY QUESTIONS UNTIL I CAN TALK TO A LAWYER.

WHOSE ***BLOOD*** IS THAT, GABI?!

...GABI?

I'M SORRY, RIQUI.

NO.

NO!

IT CAN'T... NOT *ALL* OF THEM...

IT'S A FUCKING BLOODBATH.

I HAD TO GET GABI OUT OF THERE.

KEEP AN EYE ON HER FOR A MINUTE, OKAY?

YEAH. YEAH, OF COURSE.

I KNOW THIS IS A LOT TO ASK. AND I KNOW IT'S NOT FAIR, BUT CAN YOU TAKE HER IN FOR A FEW NIGHTS?

I JUST DON'T WANT TO THROW HER INTO THE SYSTEM BEFORE WE NEED TO. AND I KNOW YOU'RE BASICALLY FAMILY.

I'LL DO WHAT I CAN, CARTER, BUT THIS ISN'T A LONG-TERM SOLUTION.

I KNOW THAT.

FUCK. I NEED A DRINK.

CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED?

I'M STILL TRYING TO FIGURE THAT OUT.

"THERE WERE SCREAMS REPORTED FROM THEIR NEIGHBORS.

Wolf Waters
natural hot springs and thermal bath

"THAT'S WHAT GOT ME ON THE SCENE. I FIGURED IT WAS JUST...YOU KNOW...A BUNCH OF COLLEGE KIDS THINKING THEY COULD GET AWAY WITH SOMETHING.

"BUT WALKING INTO THE PLACE...THERE WAS THIS SMELL. THIS AWFUL SMELL. AND I DIDN'T SEE ***ANYBODY.***

"NO ONE AT THE COUNTER OR ANYTHING."

¿MAMÁ ROSA?

I'M SORRY I SAID ALL THOSE BAD THINGS. I'M SORRY I MADE MOM SO ANGRY.

I JUST GOT SCARED. I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING. I--

SNIFF

SNIFF

THE FIRST BODY WAS BEHIND THE DESK.

"ROSALITA GARCÍA, THE GIRL'S GRANDMOTHER."

AND THERE WERE THESE BLOODY FOOTPRINTS LEADING OUT BACK TOWARD THE THERMAL POOLS. I HAD MY GUN DRAWN...

AND WHAT I SAW OUT THERE...

MOM! ARE YOU OUT THERE?!

NO...

THIS ISN'T REAL. THIS ISN'T REAL...

THIS ISN'T FUCKING REAL!

RUNNK

CHEH... CHEH... CHEH...

NO!

GABI, ARE YOU OK--?
SHUT UP!

SMACK

DAMMIT!

CARTER!

WHAT THE FUCK, GABI!

I'M TRYING TO ***HELP*** YOU, DO YOU GET THAT?! I'M THE ONE TRYING TO FUCKING ***HELP*** YOU!

SOMEBODY IN THIS TOWN IS FUCKING ***KILLING*** PEOPLE, AND THE STATE IS GOING TO TAKE YOU AWAY, YOU REALIZE THAT, RIGHT?

YOU NEED TO GROW THE FUCK UP AND ***FAST,*** KID.

GIVE HER A MINUTE.

I SHOULDN'T HAVE YELLED. I KNOW.

YEAH, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE YELLED. BUT AT LEAST SHE TAUGHT YOU A LESSON.

I GUESS SHE DID.

SHE'S NOT GOING TO GET FAR.

CHEH...
CHEH...
CHEH.

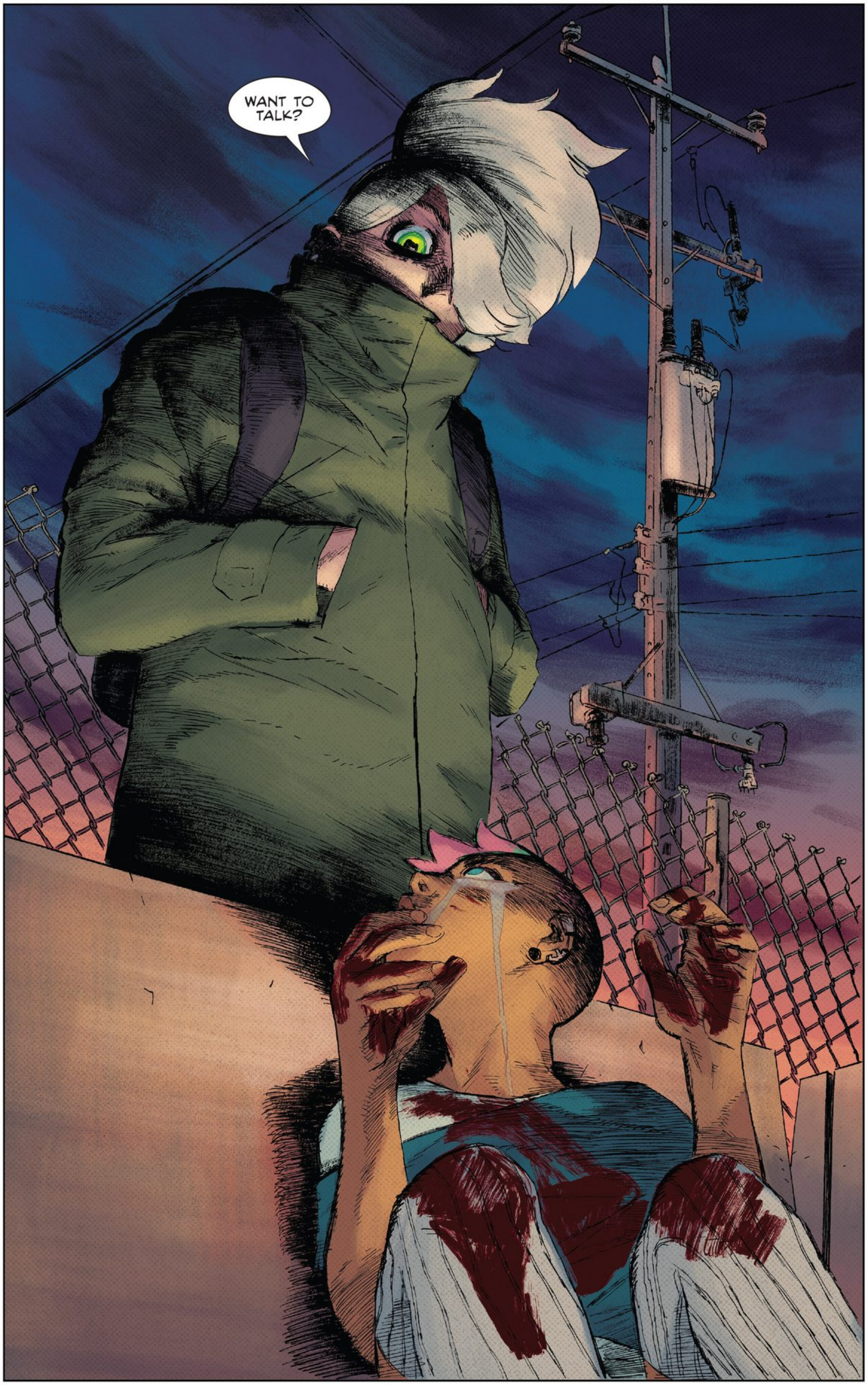
CHEH CHEH CHEH CHEH

CHEH CHEH

AAAA

HEY.

HEY?


WANT TO TALK?

SOMETHING is KILLING the CHILDREN™

"THE ROAD TO TRIBULATION"
PART ONE

WRITTEN BY
JAMES TYNION IV

ILLUSTRATED BY
WERTHER DELL'EDERA

COLORED BY
MIQUEL MUERTO

LETTERED BY
ANDWORLD DESIGN

COVER BY
WERTHER DELL'EDERA
WITH COLORS BY MIQUEL MUERTO

VARIANT COVERS BY
JENNY FRISON
DAN MORA
GABRIELE DELL'OTTO

BIG VARIANT COVER BY
VINCENZO RICCARDI

DESIGNER
MICHELLE ANKLEY

ASSISTANT EDITOR
RAMIRO PORTNOY

EDITOR
ERIC HARBURN

SOMETHING IS KILLING THE CHILDREN CREATED BY JAMES TYNION IV & WERTHER DELL'EDERA

Ross Richie Chairman & Founder • **Jen Harned** CFO • **Matt Gagnon** Editor-in-Chief • **Filip Sablik** President, Publishing & Marketing • **Stephen Christy** President, Development • **Lance Kreiter** Vice President, Licensing & Merchandising **Bryce Carlson** Vice President, Editorial & Creative Strategy • **Hunter Gorinson** Vice President, Business Development • **Josh Hayes** Vice President, Sales • **Sierra Hahn** Executive Editor • **Eric Harburn** Executive Editor • **Ryan Matsunaga** Director, Marketing **Stephanie Lazarski** Director, Operations • **Elyse Strandberg** Manager, Finance • **Michelle Ankley** Manager, Production Design • **Cheryl Parker** Manager, Human Resources • **Dafna Pleban** Senior Editor • **Elizabeth Brei** Editor **Kathleen Wisneski** Editor • **Sophie Philips-Roberts** Editor • **Allyson Gronowitz** Associate Editor • **Gavin Gronenthal** Assistant Editor • **Gwen Waller** Assistant Editor • **Ramiro Portnoy** Assistant Editor **Kenzie Rzonca** Assistant Editor • **Rey Netschke** Editorial Assistant • **Marie Krupina** Design Lead • **Crystal White** Design Lead • **Grace Park** Design Coordinator • **Madison Goyette** Production Designer **Veronica Gutierrez** Production Designer • **Jessy Gould** Production Designer • **Nancy Mojica** Production Designer • **Samantha Knapp** Production Design Assistant • **Esther Kim** Marketing Lead • **Breanna Sarpy** Marketing Lead, Digital **Amanda Lawson** Marketing Coordinator • **Alex Lorenzen** Marketing Coordinator, Copywriter • **Grecia Martinez** Marketing Assistant, Digital • **José Meza** Consumer Sales Lead • **Ashley Troub** Consumer Sales Coordinator • **Harley Salbacka** Sales Coordinator **Megan Christopher** Operations Lead • **Rodrigo Hernandez** Operations Coordinator • **Jason Lee** Senior Accountant • **Faizah Bashir** Business Analyst • **Amber Peters** Staff Accountant • **Sabrina Lesin** Accounting Assistant

BOOM! STUDIOS
WWW.BOOM-STUDIOS.COM

SOMETHING IS KILLING THE CHILDREN No. 21, March 2022. Published by BOOM! Studios, a division of Boom Entertainment, Inc., 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90036-5679. Something is Killing the Children is ™ & © 2022 James Tynion IV & Werther Dell'Edera. All rights reserved. BOOM! Studios™ and the BOOM! Studios logo are trademarks of Boom Entertainment, Inc., registered in various countries and categories. All characters, events, and institutions depicted herein are fictional. Any similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, events, and/or institutions in this publication to actual names, characters, and persons, whether living or dead, events, and/or institutions is unintended and purely coincidental. BOOM! Studios does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. **PRINTED IN CANADA.**

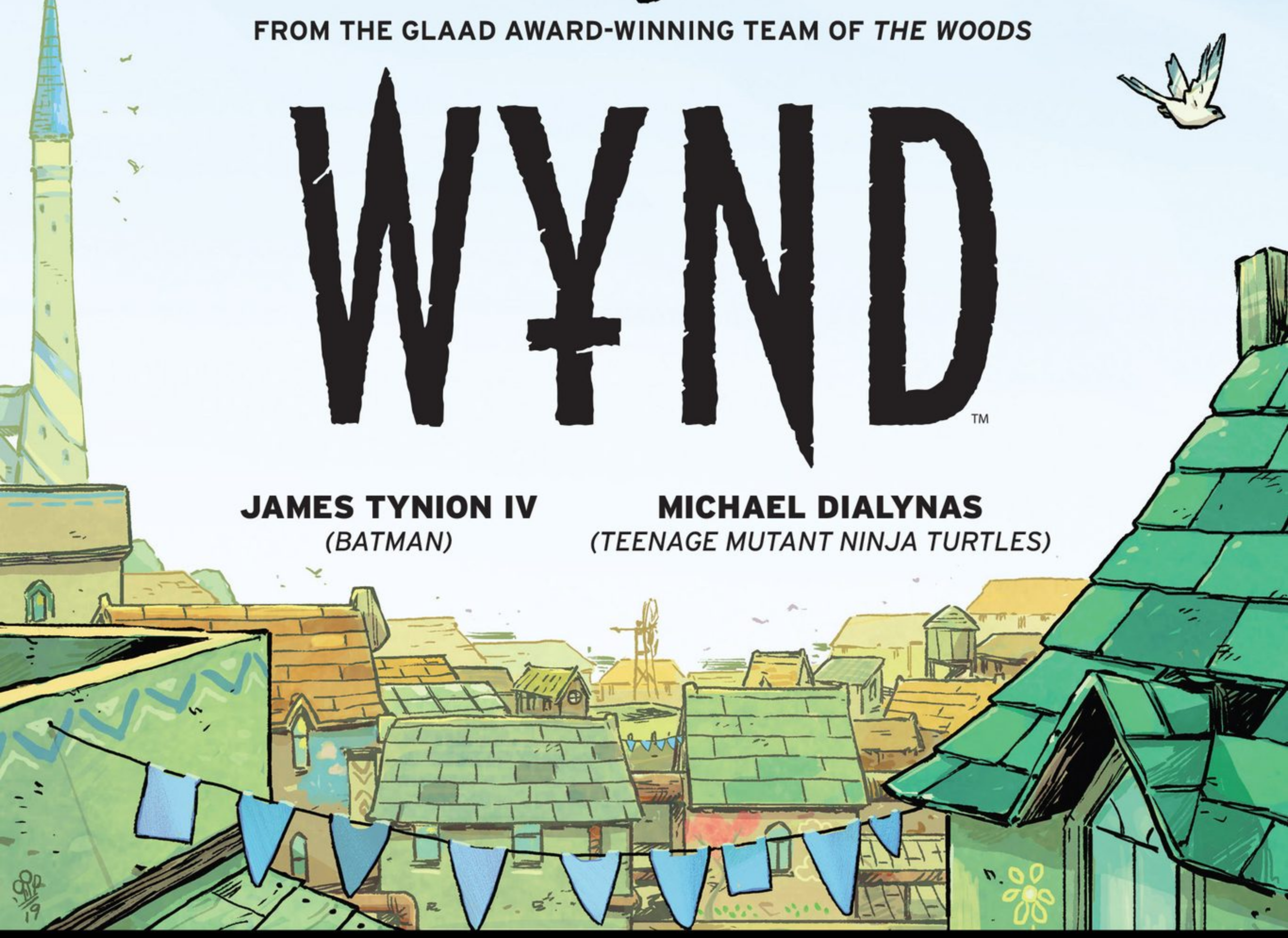
YOU CAN'T FIND YOUR HOME UNTIL YOU FIND YOURSELF

FROM THE GLAAD AWARD-WINNING TEAM OF *THE WOODS*

WYND™

JAMES TYNION IV
(BATMAN)

MICHAEL DIALYNAS
(TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES)



BOOM! STUDIOS™ **DISCOVER** YOURS

IN STORES **NOW**

WWW.**BOOM-STUDIOS**.COM

WYND ™ & © 2022 James Tynion IV & Michael Dialynas. All Rights Reserved.

DISCOVER THE ORIGIN STORY OF LAIA & DARIN FROM THE *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING YA SERIES, *AN EMBER IN THE ASHES*

A SPARK WITHIN THE FORGE™

AN EMBER IN THE ASHES GRAPHIC NOVEL

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING CREATOR & WRITER

SABAA TAHIR

(AN EMBER IN THE ASHES)

WRITER

NICOLE ANDELFINGER

(DRAGON PRINCE: BLOODMOON HUNTRESS)

ARTIST

SONIA LIAO

(THE CURIE SOCIETY)

ARCHAIA™ **DISCOVER** YOURS

IN STORES **NOW**

WWW.**BOOM-STUDIOS**.COM

AN EMBER IN THE ASHES © 2022 Sabaa Tahir. All Rights Reserved.

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"